

CAPSULE SUMMARY
BA- 559
Elder House
17700 Falls Road
Upperco, Baltimore County
Ca. 1840
Private

The Elder House was constructed circa 1840 in the Federal style of architecture. Located in the Fifth District of Baltimore County, the house is near the town of Upperco, which lies in the Fourth District. Upperco is located at the boundary between both the Fourth and Fifth Districts and was first settled in the 18th century. Although the town is currently referred to as Upperco, this was originally the name of the post office, while the town retained the name Arcadia. In the last quarter of the 19th century, the town of Upperco, named for one of the area's prominent families, was the location of a general store, St. Paul's Lutheran Church and Emory Chapel, Methodist Episcopal Church. By 1915, the town had grown to include a schoolhouse, a number of residences, and a railroad station. It is located on the Western Maryland Railroad approximately twenty-five miles north of Baltimore City.

The five-bay wide, Federal-style dwelling was constructed in a curve of Falls Road. Set back from the road on a grassy lot, the two-and-a half-story house is built of five-course American bond brick on a raised, random rubble stone foundation. The façade exhibits Flemish bond brick construction with a corbeled dog-tooth cornice. Dominating the façade, or northeast elevation, is a half-hipped, two-story wood porch with chamfered square posts supporting its four bays. The side gable, asphalt shingle roof intersects on the southeast with an interior end brick chimney with a corbeled cap and on the northwest with a rebuilt, interior end brick chimney. Overall, the façade is pierced with two 6/6 windows on the basement level, four 9/6 windows on the first story, and five 6/6 windows on the second story. All of the windows have wood sills, molded wood surrounds, and, excluding the basement level, have jack-arched lintels. The main entry, consisting of a recessed wood door that is paneled with lights, is centrally located beneath a three-light transom. Located near the dwelling are two circa 1840 outbuildings, the drive-through corncrib and the bank barn, as well as a circa 1915 smokehouse.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA- 559

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic

other Elder House

2. Location

street and number 17700 Falls Road not for publication

city, town Upperco vicinity

county Baltimore County

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name E. Warner Minetree

street and number 17700 Falls Road telephone Not Available

city, town Upperco state MD zip code 21155-9577

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore County Courthouse liber 11232 folio 747

city, town Towson tax map 20 tax parcel 182 tax ID number 0505043051

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
☐ Other: _____

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> structures
		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

Number of Contributing Resources
previously listed in the Inventory

1

7. Description

Inventory No. BA- 559

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The five-bay wide, Federal-style dwelling was constructed circa 1840¹ in a curve of Falls Road. Set back from the road on a grassy lot, the two-and-a half-story house is built of five-course American bond brick on a raised, random rubble stone foundation. The façade exhibits Flemish bond brick construction with a corbeled dog-tooth cornice. Dominating the façade, or northeast elevation, is a half-hipped, two-story wood porch with chamfered square posts supporting its four bays. The side gable, asphalt shingle roof intersects on the southeast with an interior end brick chimney with a corbeled cap and on the northwest with a rebuilt, interior end brick chimney. Overall, the façade is pierced with two 6/6 windows on the basement level, four 9/6 windows on the first story, and five 6/6 windows on the second story. All of the windows have wood sills, molded wood surrounds, and, excluding the basement level, have jack-arched lintels. The main entry, consisting of a recessed wood door that is paneled with lights, is centrally located beneath a three-light transom.

Located to the northwest of the main dwelling are two circa 1840 outbuildings, the drive-through corncrib and the bank barn. Both were built with random rubble stone foundations and vertical board siding. The one-and-a-half-story corncrib has a front gable, asphalt shingle roof, a one-story ell, and a large front opening. The two-and-a-half-story barn has a side gable, metal standing seam roof and sliding doors. The German bank barn is poor condition.

Close to the house, set atop a hill to the southeast is a circa 1915 smokehouse. The one-story, wood frame structure rests upon a poured concrete foundation with vertical board siding. It is pierced with a single-leaf vertical board door on the façade. The front gable roof is clad with metal standing seam and has exposed rafter ends.

¹ Oral history indicates that the original portion of the house may date to 1804 although this was not confirmed at the time of exterior survey.

8. Significance

Inventory No. BA- 559

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

Specific dates 1840 ca. **Architect/Builder** Unknown

Construction dates 1840 ca.

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

The Elder House was constructed in the Federal style of architecture. Oral history indicates that the dwelling may have been constructed in the early 19th century for use as an inn. However, this use and date of construction has not been confirmed. The circa 1840 date of construction is supported by architectural detailing. Located in the Fifth District of Baltimore County, the house is near the town of Upperco, which lies in the Fourth District. Upperco is located at the boundary between the Fourth and Fifth Districts and was first settled in the 18th century. Although the town is currently referred to as Upperco, this was originally the name of the post office, while the town retained the name Arcadia. In the last quarter of the 19th century, the town of Upperco, named for one of the area's prominent families, was the location of a general store, St. Paul's Lutheran Church and Emory Chapel, Methodist Episcopal Church. By 1915, the town had grown to include a schoolhouse, a number of residences, and a railroad station. It is located on the Western Maryland Railroad approximately twenty-five miles north of Baltimore City.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. BA- 559

- Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland.* Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877.
Baltimore County Historic Inventory.
Brooks, Neal A. and Eric G. Rockel. *A History of Baltimore County.* Towson, MD: Friends of the Towson Library, Inc., 1979.
Map of Baltimore County. Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915.
Scharf, J. Thomas. *History of Baltimore City and County From the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of Their Representative Men.* Philadelphia, PA: Louis H. Everts, 1881. Reprinted by Higginson Book Company, Salem, MA.
Sidney, J. C. *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys.* Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property	<u>2.79 Acres</u>	
Acreage of historical setting	<u>Unknown</u>	
Quadrangle name	<u>Hampstead</u>	Quadrangle scale: <u>1:24,000</u>

Verbal boundary description and justification

Currently, the Elder House is associated with the 2.79 acres known as tax parcel 182 of map 20 in the Baltimore County Tax Assessor's office. It has been located at 17700 Falls Road since its construction circa 1840.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	R. Weidlich, A. McDonald and A. Didden, Architectural Historians		
organization	EHT Traceries, Incorporated	date	May 14, 2001
street & number	1121 5th Street NW	telephone	202.393.1199
city or town	Washington	state	DC

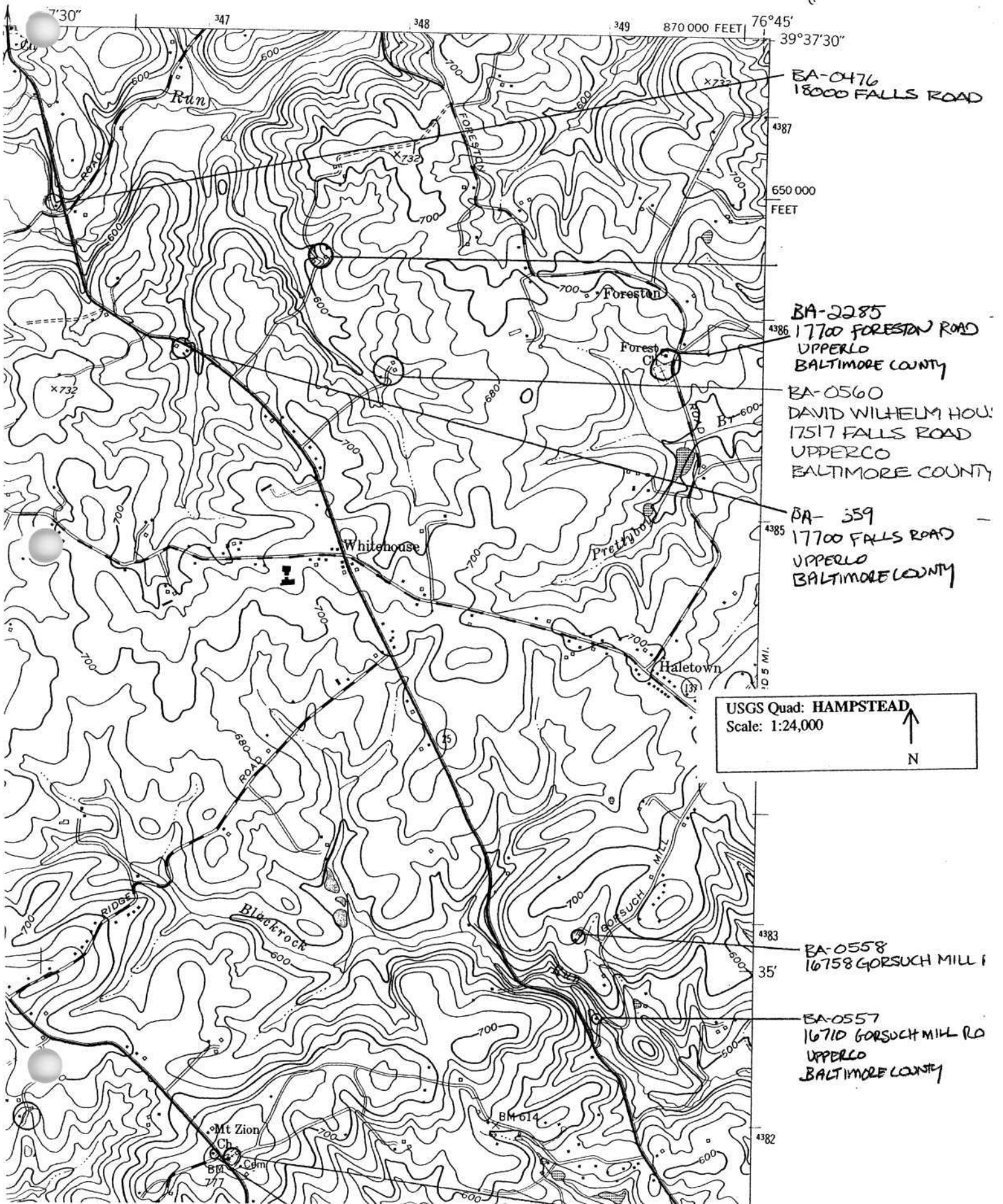
The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

HAMPSTEAD QUADRANGLE
MARYLAND
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

5663 II NW
(NEW FREEDOM)





BA-0559

17700 FALLS ROAD

UPPERLO

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRAILERIES

3/2001

MD-SHRD

N. CORNER

1 of 5



BA-559

17700 FALLS ROAD

UPPERLO

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRACERIES

3/2001

MD-SHO

W CORNER

2 of 5



BA-559

17700 FALLS ROAD

UPPERLO

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRAILER 1ES

3/2001

MD-5HP0

S CORNER

3 of 5



BA #559

17700 FALLS ROAD

UPPERLO

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRACERIES

3/2001

MD - SHPD

BARN

4 of 5



BA-554

17700 FALLS ROAD

UPPERLO

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRAILER 16S

3/2001

MD- SHPO

OUTBUILDINGS

5 of 5

BA-559

ELDER HOUSE - Before 1850 (1804?) - (Southwest side of) 17700 Falls Road, 0.8 mile north of intersection of Mount Carmel Road, White House vicinity. Brick house, 5 bays wide, formerly owned by Parlett family, later by Mr. and Mrs. William Voss Elder, Jr., and in 1978 being acquired by Warner Minetree. House has large walk-in basement fireplace. Two-story house in Federal style; gable roof, high stone basement. Red barn adjoining on

north. A resident of the area, age 99 in 1877, claimed to have been born in the house; it is possibly the Henry Hoover house of 1850 map, although no structure was shown here in 1877 atlas. Property contains abandoned bed of Falls Road, with an old SRC bridge built by pouring concrete on a stone bridge put up by turnpike company in 19th Century. Mr. Minetree finds that the house was an inn about 1804. Former Owner: William V. Elder, Jr. Owner: Warner Minetree.